

1 **BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD**

2 In the Matter of

3 **PATRICK DIFONZO, M.D.**

4 Holder of License No. 29570  
5 For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine

6 In the State of Arizona.

**Case No. MD-09-0510A**

**ORDER FOR CONTINUING MEDICAL  
EDUCATION**

**(NON-DISCIPLINARY)**

7  
8 At its public meeting on December 2, 2009, the Arizona Medical Board ("Board") voted to  
9 issue Patrick DiFonzo, M.D. ("Physician") a non-disciplinary Continuing Medical Education (CME)  
10 Order for inappropriately prescribing opiates, failing to perform adequate diagnostic evaluations,  
11 and for failing to update his board certification status on his stationery and prescription pads in  
12 violation of A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(q) and (mm). The Board ordered Physician to complete 15-20  
13 hours of Board staff pre-approved Category I non-disciplinary CME in prescribing within six months  
14 pursuant to A.R.S. §32-1451(E)(2). The CME hours shall be in addition to the hours required for  
15 the biennial renewal of medical licensure. This matter does not rise to the level of discipline.

16 **ORDER**

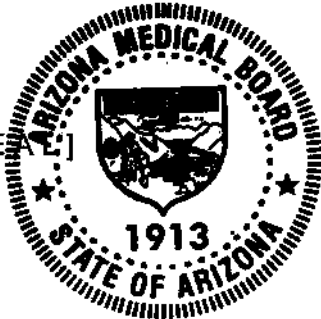
17 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician shall, within six months, complete 15-20 hours of  
18 Board Staff pre-approved Category I non-disciplinary Continuing Medical Education ("CME") in  
19 prescribing, and provide Board Staff with satisfactory proof of attendance. The CME hours shall  
20 be in addition to the hours required for biennial renewal of his medical license. Physician's failure  
21 to complete the CME will subject him to future disciplinary action by the Board. A.R.S. § 32-  
22 1401(27)(r).

23 **RIGHT TO APPEAL**

24 **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that, pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.03, any person aggrieved  
25 by this decision may apply to the Board, in writing, within thirty (30) days of receipt and request a

1 public hearing with respect to this order. You may request a hearing by filing a notice of appeal.  
2 The notice of appeal must be filed with the Board's Executive Director, and should include your  
3 name, address, the action being appealed, and a concise statement of the reasons for the appeal.  
4 If you request a public hearing, the hearing will be scheduled within sixty (60) days of receipt of your  
5 request. If you request a public hearing, you also have the right to request an informal settlement  
6 conference by filing a written request with the Board, pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.06, no later than  
7 twenty (20) days before the scheduled hearing. The conference will be held within fifteen (15) days  
8 after receipt of your request. Please note that you waive any right to object to the participation of  
9 the Board's representative in the final administrative decision of the matter if it is not settled at the  
10 conference.

11 DATED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2009.



ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

13 By *Lisa S. Wynn*  
14 LISA S. WYNN  
15 Executive Director  
16

17 **ORIGINAL** of the foregoing filed this  
11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2009 with:

18 Arizona Medical Board  
19 9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road  
20 Scottsdale, Arizona 85258

21 **EXECUTED COPY** of the foregoing  
22 Mailed by US Mail this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December 2009 to:

23 Tom Slutes  
24 Slutes Sakrison & Rogers  
25 4801 E. Broadway Blvd, Suite 301  
Tucson, Arizona 85711-3609

*Chris Bandy*  
Arizona Medical Board Staff